(amended) 7. A pre-diffuser according to claim 6, wherein the central member further includes a downstream portion including radially outer and radially inner walls, each converging towards the midline of the pre-diffuser in the downstream direction, allowing air flowing therearound to diffuse towards the midline of the pre-diffuser.

(amended) 9. A pre-diffuser according to claim 8 wherein a pathway for air is defined between the radially outer wall of the pre-diffuser and the radially outer wall of the downstream portion of the central member, the respective walls of the pre-diffuser and the central member diverging in the downstream direction, for diffusing air flowing therebetween.

(amended) 10. A pre-diffuser according to claim 9 wherein a pathway for air is defined between the radially inner wall of the pre-diffuser and the radially inner wall of the downstream portion of the central member, the respective walls of the pre-diffuser and the central member diverging in the downstream direction, for diffusing air flowing therebetween.

(amended) 11. A pre-diffuser according to claim 10 wherein the radially inner and outer walls of the pre-diffuser diverge at a lesser angle than do the radially inner and outer walls of the upstream part of the central member.

(amended) 12. A gas turbine engine including a pre-diffuser according to claim 1, the gas turbine engine including a generally annular combustor.

Respectfully submitted,

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APPENDIX

(amended) 5. A pre-diffuser according to claim 3 [or claim 4] wherein a pathway for air is defined between the radially outer wall of the diffuser and the radially outer wall of the upstream portion of the central member, the respective radially outer walls converging in the downstream direction, for accelerating air flowing therebetween.

(amended) 6. A pre-diffuser according to [any of claims 3 to 5] claim 5, wherein a pathway for air is defined between the radially inner wall of the pre-diffuser and the radially inner wall of upstream portion of the central member, the respective radially inner walls converging in the downstream direction, for accelerating air flowing therebetween.

(amended) 7. A pre-diffuser according [any of claims 3 to 6] to claim 6, wherein the central member further includes a downstream portion including radially outer and radially inner walls, each converging towards the midline of the pre-diffuser in the downstream direction, allowing air flowing therearound to diffuse towards the midline of the pre-diffuser.

(amended) 9. A pre-diffuser according to [claim 7 or] claim 8, wherein a pathway for air is defined between the radially outer wall of the pre-diffuser and the radially outer wall of the downstream portion of the central member, the respective walls of the pre-diffuser and the central member diverging in the downstream direction, for diffusing air flowing therebetween.

(amended) 10. A pre-diffuser according to [any of claims 7 to 9] claim 9, wherein a pathway for air is defined between the radially inner wall of the pre-diffuser and the radially inner wall of the downstream portion of the central member, the respective walls of the pre-diffuser and the central member diverging in the downstream direction, for diffusing air flowing therebetween.

(amended) 11. A pre-diffuser according to [any of claims 8 to 10] claim 10, wherein the radially inner and outer walls of the pre-diffuser diverge at a lesser angle than do the radially inner and outer walls of the upstream part of the central member.

(amended) 12. A gas turbine engine including a pre-diffuser according to [any preceding claim] claim 1, the gas turbine engine including a generally annular combustor.